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PROCEEDINGS

ON THE OCCASION OF

LAYING THE CORNER STONE

OF THE

CITY HALL

OF THE CITY OF BOSTON, -

DECEMBER 22, 1862.



BOSTON:

J. E. FARWELL AND COMPANY, PRINTERS TO THE CITY,

NO. 37 CONGRESS STREET.

1862.

55851



## CITY OF BOSTON.

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*In Board of Aldermen, December 22, 1862.*

ORDERED: That the Committee on Public Buildings be authorized to print among the City Documents of this year a detailed account of the ceremonies of the laying of the cornerstone of the new City Hall.

Sent down for concurrence.

THOMAS P. RICH, *Chairman.*

*In Common Council, December 26, 1862.*

Concurred.

JOSHUA D. BALL, *President.*

Approved December 27, 1862.

JOSEPH M. WIGHTMAN, *Mayor.*



## PROCEEDINGS.

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THE corner-stone of the new City Hall of the city of Boston, was laid on the anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, December 22, 1862.

At the request of the Committee on Public Buildings, the Mayor invited the officers of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts to participate in laying the corner-stone of this edifice. The invitation was most courteously accepted, and the Masonic ceremonies formed an interesting part of the proceedings on this occasion.

The size of the new building allowed the foundation and front wall to be erected and prepared for the corner-stone, while the City Government occupied the old City Hall. A procession was therefore formed, under the direction of the City Messenger, in the room of the Mayor and Aldermen, which proceeded to the platform erected for the ceremonies, in the following order :—

Brigade Band.

Chief of Police.

Committee and Superintendent of Public Buildings, and Architects of the new City Hall.

Mayor.

Grand Master, and Officers of the Grand Lodge.

Past Mayors and Invited Guests.

Board of Aldermen.

Common Council.

Other Members of the City Government.

The exercises commenced with the following

ADDRESS OF ALDERMAN FRANCIS RICHARDS,

*Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings.*

MR. MAYOR: The Committee on Public Buildings of the city of Boston, under the direction of the City Council, have commenced the erection of a new City Hall, and they have made such progress that it becomes proper at this time, in continuance of an old custom, to deposit some mementos and statistics of the times in which its erection was commenced. The Committee have directed me, sir, to request you, as the head of the government which has inaugurated this important and necessary improvement, to officiate over such ceremonies as you may deem proper for this occasion.

ADDRESS OF MAYOR WIGHTMAN.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In conformity with the arrangements of the Committee on Public Buildings of the City Council, and in compliance with your request, we are here assembled in presence of the members of the City Council, and of the officers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts, to lay the corner-stone of a building to be erected for the use of the Municipal Government of the city of Boston.

GENTLEMEN OF THE CITY COUNCIL: The present occasion is one of peculiar interest to you as the official representatives of our citizens, inasmuch as by your action the City of Boston, for the first time in her memorable history, is to lay the foundation, and erect an edifice for the various departments of her government.

The full, clear, and comprehensive report of the Committee, made on the 19th of June last, (*City Document No. 44*,) upon this subject, received your approving votes with an unanimity as generous as it was deserved. The record of the action of the various City Councils, from 1838 to 1862, presented an array of facts, which not only show the wisdom but the necessity of your prompt and decisive action.

There are some interesting facts in connection with the erection of the town houses and town halls of the olden time, which may not be inappropriate to mention upon this day, the anniversary of the Landing of our Pilgrim Fathers, and upon this occasion. It appears that for nearly thirty years after the first settlement of Boston, in 1630, although the subject of a town house was frequently agitated, the town was without any public building for town purposes. In 1656 an influential and wealthy citizen, Capt. Robert Kayne, died, and left a consid-

erable legacy,\* in his will, for the purpose of building a town house.

In March, 1657, a committee, consisting of Captain Savage, Mr. Stodard, Mr. Howchin, and Mr. Edward Hutchinson, senior, was appointed "to consider of ye modell of ye Towne House to be built," also of the expense and location, and to take up subscriptions "to propagate such a building." I have before me the original subscription paper for the erection of this edifice, with the following heading:—

"Whereas, there is giuen a Considerable sune by Capt: Kayn towards the Building of a towne house w<sup>ch</sup> sune will not ataine the Building w<sup>ch</sup> he mentioneth in his Will, now Considering the vsefulness of such a Structure wee whose names are vnder written, doe ingage our selues our heyres executors for to giue towards the aboue sd hous and also a Condit in the Market place, the seuerall sumes vnder written":—

The first signature is Gov. "Jo. Endecott, £2 10s." Next is Deputy Gov. "Ri. Bellingham in country pay, £ 10." Then follows:

Edward Tynde, in corne,	10 00s 00d.
John Evered, in goods and corne,	10 00s 00d.
Peter Olliuer, in goods and provisions,	10 00s 00d.
James Olliuer, provided there be a cundit with- all, in goods and provisions,	12 00s 00d.
Timothy Atkins will give in hats,	5 00s 00d.
Hezekiah Usher will pay in English goods, or equivalent, twenty poundes, provizo yt ye mar- ket house be erected and a cundit,	20 00s 00d.

\* £ 300. See "Agreement for the Town House," Appendix.

In this manner three hundred and fifty-six pounds was contributed, principally in goods, by one hundred and twenty-two of the inhabitants of the town, among whom were some of the most distinguished of the New England Puritans.

The result of this effort was the building of a town house of wood at the head of State Street, where the old State House now stands, between the years 1657 and 1659, at a cost of six hundred and eighty pounds. This building was consumed in the great fire which occurred in 1711. During the following year, 1712, another town house, of brick, was erected in the same place; this was also destroyed by fire in 1747, in which "the ancient books, early records, and other valuable papers were burned." This was regarded then, as now, a serious calamity. In 1748 the building now known as the Old State House was erected for a town house, but appears to have been occupied by the "General Court of the Commonwealth and the Supreme and County Courts." That town houses were generally used for the courts is apparent from the fact that when, in 1742, Peter Faneuil, a liberal and wealthy merchant, erected "Faneuil Hall" at his own expense and presented it to the town, it is described as containing not only "a large and sufficient accommodation for a Market place, but has also superadded a spacious and most

beautiful Town Hall over it, and several other convenient rooms which may prove very beneficial to the Town for offices or otherwise." It is also a remarkable fact that, notwithstanding he proposed to build this at his own charge and make a present of it to the town, the proposition was opposed to such an extent at a town meeting held in Brattle Street Meeting-house in July, 1740, that the generous offer of Mr. Faneuil was accepted by a majority of only seven votes—three hundred and sixty-seven being in the affirmative, and three hundred and sixty in the negative. Singular as this vote may seem to have been which decided the erection of the most celebrated building connected with our national history, it would not be difficult to find similar instances of the peculiarities of our people even in the present day.

Faneuil Hall appears to have been the first actual town house, as it was also the first city hall, in Boston. From 1742 until 1822, a period of eighty years, the rooms were used by the selectmen, town clerk, treasurer, and other town officers, while the town meetings were held in the main hall. It was here that the first city government was organized, in May, 1822, and it continued to be occupied by the city officers until September 17, 1830, when the



Old State House was remodelled and dedicated as a "City Hall."

In a few years, however, it was found that "the inconveniences to which the citizens generally, as well as the municipal officers, were exposed by the existing arrangements, — the constant and great danger to important documents and records from fire, and the insufficient space allotted to many of the officers for the transaction of the business of their respective departments," — could only be remedied by the erection of a commodious and suitable building. This was reported by Mayor Eliot in May, 1838, and it was then proposed to erect "a handsome, well lighted, and well ventilated building" upon this spot, at an estimated cost of one hundred thousand dollars. The Mayor and Aldermen were, however, overruled by the Common Council in relation to a *new* building, and finally, in July, 1840, they concurred in an order to alter the old Court House into a City Hall, at an estimated expense of \$14,475. Although the alterations were skilfully and admirably made, the size of the building was only adapted to the City Government at that time, and consequently, within a few years, the same inconveniences, from restricted accommodations, began to be experienced, which had caused the removal from the former building.

These difficulties continued to increase, and year after year, since 1850, the most favorable reports have been made, plans, specifications, and estimates have been obtained, and each succeeding City Government has appeared to realize more and more the need of a City Hall worthy of a great and prosperous municipality. Since this building we are now superseding was first occupied for a City Hall, the assessed valuation of Boston has increased from ninety-four and one half millions in 1840, to three hundred and sixteen millions in 1862. In this progress of events, the increase in the population and wealth of the City has added largely to the duties and responsibilities of its officers.

To meet these exigencies, new departments and officers have been created, and old departments have been reorganized and extended. Among the new departments are, the Police, Water Commissioners, Directors of Public Institutions, Commissioners of Public Lands, Trustees of the Public Library, and Trustees of Mount Hope Cemetery. In addition to these are the following officers: City Engineer, City Physician, Water Registrar, City Registrar, Clerk of Committees and Mayor's Clerk; Superintendents of Internal Health, Public Lands, Public Buildings, Public Schools, Telegraphic Fire Alarm, and of Lamps; all of whom, except the Trustees of the

Public Library, require offices for the transaction of the public business. In all the old departments, the increase of labor has been very great, particularly in those of the City Clerk, Treasurer, Auditor, and Assessors, and consequently a corresponding increase in the number of assistants and clerks has been required.

Under these circumstances, it is self-evident that the accommodations furnished in the present City Hall are now, and have long been, entirely inadequate for the proper performance of the public duties. There are forty-seven standing committees of the City Council, and but two committee rooms in the City Hall, so that the offices of the City Clerk, of the several Superintendents, and even that of the Mayor, are obliged to be used for the meetings of the committees. The rooms are generally small, badly lighted, and without ventilation. One of them is occupied by the recording assistants to the City Clerk; another assistant is located in the public anteroom used by reporters and other persons, while the City Clerk and Mayor's Clerk have their desks in the room of the Board of Aldermen. The Superintendents of Public Lands and of Sewers, with their clerks, are crowded into another, the Superintendents of Streets and of Internal Health, with two clerks, attend to their office duties in an

apartment which scarcely allows room enough for the desks of the occupants, while the Superintendent of Public Buildings and Clerk of Committees have even worse accommodations; and I am confident that if any one of our merchants who has deemed this building unnecessary would go through the offices in the present City Hall, he would not only change his opinion, but would be satisfied that the accommodations, afforded to the chief recording officer of our city, are inferior to those for the clerks in his own store, and that the City Treasurer, the receiver and disburser of six or seven millions of dollars annually, is crowded with his clerks, book-keepers, and tellers into a single room, which for size and inconvenience, probably, could not be equalled by that of any other city treasurer in the Union. But the City Treasurer is not the only sufferer from this state of things; the citizens, on the monthly pay-days, are obliged to wait outside the office in the cold, and sometimes snow and rain, for their turn to enter and receive their money, which is not only exceedingly annoying, but is an unnecessary waste of time. This would be scarcely tolerated in a country town in New England, and it is certainly unworthy of the wealth and reputation of Boston.

But it may be said, admitting all this to be correct, was it expedient to erect a new City Hall at

this time, while the country was struggling under the pressure of a disastrous war? It is too true that we are passing through a war terrible in its consequences, and which may well make the stoutest heart falter at the prospect before us, as to the future of our country. But are not other works and enterprises, both public and private, proceeded with? Are we to sit down in despair, as if this war was to culminate in a dissolution of the Union, and the result of it was to determine whether or not our city was to be destroyed by an earthquake? Individuals do not so regard it. Witness the magnificent warehouses, the sumptuous stores, and the palatial residences with which they are bordering our streets and avenues. Nor is there any demurrer on the part of our citizens to the vast sums appropriated and expending upon the Public Garden, the City Hospital, the City Stables, and other public improvements, not one of which bears any comparison, in importance, to the City Hall. The latter is to provide for the exigencies of the public business; the former are for ornament, philanthropy, or convenience. Even the war itself has furnished additional reasons for its erection, inasmuch as it has been the cause of adding more than a million of dollars to the disbursements from the city treasury within the last six months, and it has also

required the organization of a new department, both ministerial and financial, and of a most laborious character, to disburse the State aid to the families of our soldiers.

By procrastinating its erection even pecuniary interests are sacrificed; because at no previous time since the city was chartered has money been so abundant, or could be obtained on such favorable terms; and the advantage of making contracts at this time might not again occur for many years. Besides, we must take into consideration the fact that even if the war was to be closed forthwith, a long time must elapse before the City would be in any better condition to bear the expense; for, if we feel the pressure during the *issue* of so much paper currency by the government, what will hereafter be our condition when, in common with other municipalities, we are called upon to furnish the means for its redemption? Could we then have deferred the building of a City Hall for ten or twenty years longer, without compromising the public interests to a far greater extent than the present expenditure of \$160,000, or even \$200,000? To-day the public archives of the city, belonging to many of its departments, are exposed to remediless loss by fire and other casualties, in ordinary buildings, rented, from their necessary location in this vicinity, at

high if not exorbitant rents. The most valuable are kept in safes, but the great mass of papers and public documents have no proper place for their security or preservation. Is not this discreditable to a city which is the most wealthy, in proportion to its size, of any in the world?

There is an astonishing apathy, often amounting to culpable neglect, in regard to the preservation of public papers. As Chairman of the Committee on Streets, in 1858, I accidentally learned that all the invaluable plans in relation to streets and the public domain, involving rights, titles, and legal questions of the utmost importance, the loss or destruction of which would be irremediable in many cases, and the expense of restoring others by new surveys would be more than the whole cost of a City Hall, had not been kept in any place of security except that afforded by the City Engineer's office, which was then in the upper rooms of a store on Washington Street. In 1859 I brought this subject to the attention of the Government, and by personal effort obtained the erection of the present fire-proof office and repository, over the office of the Registry of Deeds.

For the want of proper places for their preservation, our historical records and files of papers have been lost to a deplorable extent. Last year I

purchased for the City, from the estate of a deceased antiquarian, nearly two hundred valuable papers, originally belonging to the official files of the town, dated from 1680 to 1775, including nearly all the official papers in relation to the erection of Faneuil Hall, the building of Long Wharf, and other similar documents. These papers must have been abstracted many years ago, as our present City Clerk has no knowledge of their ever having been in his possession; and it is a remarkable fact that there is scarcely a paper of any historical interest, previous to 1800, now remaining upon our files. Those which remain, and the printed documents which have been preserved, are arranged in wood cases around the walls of the committee rooms, exposed to loss by fire at any time.

To persons unconnected with public affairs, it is difficult to appreciate the exceeding trouble and loss of time, from a want of room to arrange the documents belonging to a department for convenient reference. There is not an officer in the City Government that does not daily and hourly suffer from this cause, and the number of valuable papers which are thus mislaid or lost, is extremely annoying.

There is another consideration which is worthy of our attention. It is that the erection of this City Hall is to be commended on the ground of econ-



omy and as a means of reducing the taxes upon our citizens. There are now one half of the departments located outside of the present City Hall; the rent of the premises they occupy is eight thousand dollars per annum. As the amount appropriated for the new building, (\$160,000,) is to be obtained by a loan for twenty years at 5 per cent. interest, and as these bonds command from 13 per cent. to 15 per cent. advance, the interest is reduced to less than  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., and amounts to but little over \$7,000 per annum; which is from \$800 to \$1,000 less than is now paid for rents. *The principal of the loan, or cost of the building, does not form a part of the annual city tax, but is gradually provided for from sales of public property and other receipts, deposited from time to time in the Sinking Fund, to meet the bonds at maturity.*

But this is not the only saving. It appears from the Auditor's books that during ten years, from 1852 to 1862, the expenditures for repairs, alterations, and improvements on the present City Hall amount to \$16,504.24, to which is to be added an unexpended appropriation of \$4,000 to repair the roof, being a total of \$20,000, or an average of \$2,000 per annum. Within the same time there has also been expended for repairing and fitting up rented offices \$7,264.96, and for safes for these

offices  $\$3,144.89 = \$10,409.85$  ; which is an average of more than  $\$1,000$  per annum. We have thus a grand total of  $\$30,000$ , or  $\$3,000$  per annum, which average was not likely to be diminished in the future ; and I believe it will be no more than a fair statement to say that under the present arrangement for the rents and repairs of the public offices, the citizens are taxed  $\$11,000$  per annum, while the interest on the capital to be invested in the new City Hall will not exceed  $\$7,500$ .

I have thus, gentlemen, endeavored to present some of the facts and reasons which, in your judgment, and in my own opinion, were sufficient to justify the erection of a City Hall at this time. In a city like this, increasing so rapidly in wealth and population, public improvements cannot remain stationary. When, therefore, we consider the vast expenditures which have been made in extending the area of our territory on the South Bay, and the Neck lands ; in laying out new avenues, and widening and extending old streets ; in building the most approved correctional and eleemosynary institutions ; in erecting spacious and admirably arranged school-houses ; in founding and supporting a public library, in every respect worthy of the Athens of America ; and in establishing a City Hospital destined to

become one of the most beneficial if not beautiful of our public institutions, we cannot but be impressed with the conviction that our action in the present instance has been in strict conformity with that solemn oath of office we have each and all of us taken, "to faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon us to the best of our knowledge and ability."

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER: I herewith present to you a metallic box containing an engraved plate, historical documents, and other appropriate articles, to be deposited by you in this corner-stone, according to the usages of your ancient order.

The Masonic Ceremonies were then commenced with some preliminary remarks by the Grand Master, and the invocation of the Divine Blessing, by the Grand Chaplain, Rev. THOMAS J. GREENWOOD.\*

\* The Brethren present were :

M. W. William D. Coolidge, Grand Master.

R. W. Marshall P. Wilder, Deputy G. Master.

R. W. Winslow Lewis, Senior G. Warden.

R. W. Peter C. Jones, Junior G. Warden.

W. C. C. Dame, G. Treasurer.

W. Charles W. Moore, G. Secretary.

W. T. J. Greenwood, G. Chaplain.

W. William H. Sampson, Senior G. Deacon.

W. C. J. Cleveland, Junior G. Deacon.

W. William D. Stratton, G. Marshal.

W. Isaac Cary,        }  
W. J. W. Barton,     } G. Stewards.

W. Luther L. Tarbell, G. Tyler.

Also R. W. Benjamin Dean, of Boston.

Also R. W. William Sutton, of Danvers, and others.

## P R A Y E R .

SUPREME ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE ! Under thy bending heavens, the broad canopy that covers all our earthly interests, and earthly hopes, we come to discharge the appropriate duties of the occasion which has called us here.

We feel it meet, and needful for us, that we should first of all invoke thy blessing upon the transactions of the hour.

We come, by appropriate ceremony, agreeably to the usages of our ancient and cherished institution, to lay the corner-stone of an edifice here to be erected, for the use of this city and the convenience of its civil government. May thy blessing attend the rite, and thine approval sanction what we do.

We acknowledge our dependence upon thee ! and we bless thee that we are dependant, as upon the Father of the spirits of all flesh !

From early time thy prospering smile has rested upon our city, and upon our land. We have enjoyed a goodly heritage. The feeble have become strong ; and the weak have become mighty ! And now, as indicated by their increasing prosperity and enlargement, thou hast put it into the hearts of this people to rear upon this spot another edifice, for

their better accommodation, in the discharge of the official duties of those who are called by the City's voice to places of trust and responsibility, as the public servants.

Let the walls of the building rise upon this foundation-stone, under thy fostering care. And if it please thee, Father, let those who are engaged in its erection, be preserved in health and free from all accident and harm, even till the cap-stone shall crown it, amid shoutings of joy, and the structure stands an ornament and an honor to the city

And here, GREAT GOD! let the building remain under the blessed ægis of our free institutions, to subserve the public interests undisturbed, even to coming generations. In the midst of the mutations of time, and the changes of circumstance, let thy blessing, we pray thee, rest upon this goodly city, for its olden memories and its present devotion; upon all its interests, civil, religious, artisan, commercial, and educational, and may the influence of each and all tend to public good.

Bless, O GOD! bless abundantly the civil government of the city in its present and future labors. Give thy rich blessing to the retiring and to the incoming Chief Magistrate thereof; the outgoing, give the blessing which belongs to him, for the exceeding faithfulness and devotion with which his many

and arduous duties have been performed; and the incoming, inspire with like faithfulness and devotion to duty, which is the greatest blessing we can crave for his official labors. Let all who are or may be associated with them, receive the blessing of thine approval upon their work, and let them thus be strengthened and stimulated to still more earnest labors for the common good!

Bless, we beseech thee, our ancient and glorious Commonwealth. May thy grace be imparted very largely to its Chief Magistrate, and all who are associated with him in framing, or administering the laws. Let fidelity to the common good characterize all their labors, and so let them,—and the people through them,—receive constant favor from thy hand!

But while we are here, GREAT GOD! in the midst of the hum of industry, and the signs of prosperity all around us, for the discharge of a pleasing duty, let us not forget, we pray thee, our DEAR COUNTRY, under thy grace the fountain of all our blessings, now torn and distracted by civil discord and strife. Man's folly, ingratitude, and wickedness stand darkly against the prospering smile of God! Madness rides upon the wings of the hour, and peril lurks in all our ways! Under the fearful cloud that has fallen around us, and amidst the fiery tempest of war that

hurttles through the land, thou alone canst be our helper! Thou alone art our hope! O, stretch over our land the arm of thine Almighty power! Lift over our bleeding country the availing shield of thy protection and care! As thou wast with the fathers in the day of their need, be now the gracious helper of their sons.

Let thy hand roll away the cloud that darkens our political heavens, and thy spirit breathe speedy peace through all our borders! To this end bless the President of the United States, and all who are associated with him in our National Government, and councils. Give them very largely of thy wisdom, and prudence to guide and direct the affairs of State in this momentous crisis which we are called to meet; that the UNION AND HARMONY OF THE STATES may be restored; the glorious CONSTITUTION from our fathers exert its mild and equal sway over all, unweakened, unimpaired, and our dear country still hold on, and forever, her way of advancing greatness and glory, under the benediction of our God, — the pride of our hearts, and the hope of the nations of the earth! Let rebellion, and faction, and discord cease from our midst, and enable us now and henceforth to act as in some degree grateful for the unspeakable blessings thou hast conferred upon us, moving under the hallowed beamings of

the RELIGION OF JESUS, toward the degree of perfectability we may attain !

O, GOD OUR FATHER ! remember in thy tender mercy the thousands of our youth who have gone out from their happy homes to endure the privations of the camp and to meet the perils of the battle-field, in contending for the preservation of the constitution, laws, institutions, and homes of our land ! Hold over them the shield of thy protection, and be thou their helper in every emergency they are called to meet ; and restore them speedily, we pray thee, under the mild beamings of returning peace, to the homes and hearts that are waiting for them !

Bless, O God, as thou alone hast the power to bless, the desolated homes, and the thousands of bleeding hearts that have been, or may be called to make the terrible sacrifice of yielding up their loved ones on the bloody altar of this fearful strife ! Tenderly compassionate their condition, and help them to bear all burdens, still trusting in THEE for that issue, which shall yet come, in which thy ways shall be vindicated, and all their sorrows be turned into joy, through him that bindeth up the broken-hearted !

And now, blessed Father, we again invoke thy favor on the occasion which has gathered us. Re-



gard in thy great kindness the work which is here performed. Graciously smile upon this Grand Lodge of our order. May its officers guide in the spirit of wisdom and brotherly love. May its subordinates, and our whole fraternity throughout the globe, receive that blessing from thee which shall make them an instrument in thy hand for the promotion of the excellent graces and kindly amenities of life among men, and so let thy great name be glorified in all our borders!

Let this building rise in its beauty and grandeur, to its completion. Let the light of Christian Truth be spread, and be borne to the hearts of the children of men everywhere, until all mankind shall be baptized into its holy spirit, and turned from all error into all needed truth;—until at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that he is Lord to the glory of God the Father!

Lead us in the way in which thou wouldst have us to go, through all time, and when our brief pilgrimage of mortality is ended, in forgiveness of all our sins, bring us, and in thine own time, all thy children home to the great temple of immortal light and love, to go no more out forever and forever, and through Jesus, our constituted Redeemer, accept our praises evermore. AMEN.

After appropriate music by the band, C. C. Dame, Grand Treasurer, read the description of the contents of the box, which was then placed in the receptacle prepared for it, and the corner-stone lowered into its place in the southeast corner of the building. The R. W. Deputy Grand Master and Senior and Junior Grand Wardens applied the proper jewels of their office, the square, the level, and the plumb, and each declared that the craftsmen had done their duty. The Grand Master then striking three times upon the stone with his gavel, said, "I find this foundation-stone well laid, true and trusty, and in conformity with the plan, in peace, love, and harmony."

Deputy Grand Master, Marshall P. Wilder, then poured corn upon the stone from a golden cornucopia, saying, "May the health of the workmen employed in this undertaking be preserved to them, and may the Supreme Grand Architect bless and prosper their labors." Senior Grand Warden, Winslow Lewis, next poured wine from a silver vase upon the stone, saying, "May plenty be showered down upon the people, and may the blessing of the bounteous Giver of all good rest upon this place." The Junior Grand Warden, Peter C. Jones, followed by pouring oil upon the stone with a similar benediction. The Grand Master then said: "May corn, wine, and oil,\* and all the necessities of life abound among this people, and may the blessing of Almighty God be upon this undertaking, and may the workmen be blessed while engaged on it, and may the structure here to be erected be preserved to the latest ages, and may it promote the object for which it is designed." The audience then joined in singing Old Hundred, after which the Grand Master addressed the Mayor and City Government as follows:—

## ADDRESS OF GRAND MASTER W. D. COOLIDGE.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

In compliance with your invitation, and in conformity to ancient masonic usage, we have now laid the corner-stone of this new City Hall, and I have pronounced the foundation-stone well laid, true and trusty. Under your special care, and that of your successors, let this edifice arise in all its magnificent proportions to be an ornament to the city and a convenience to the members of its government, and the pride and honor of her citizens.

On this 22d day of December our minds naturally go back to the time when our forefathers landed at Plymouth. This beautiful structure is an evidence of the consummate skill and ability of our architects and builders. Let it rise in its architectural beauty to be in the sight of this people a joy forever.

The Mayor then continued his address, as follows:—

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER: I thank you and the M. W. officers of the Grand Lodge of Masons, for the valuable and interesting services you have performed on this occasion. The invitation you so kindly accepted was tendered from a profound respect for your ancient and honored institution, and I trust that hereafter, when this building shall be

completed and become the pride of our city, your participation in the laying of this corner-stone will be regarded by you with pleasure and satisfaction.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS: Having thus performed a duty most gratifying to me, both personally and officially, I am happy to know that so many of the members of the Committee are to remain in the City Council during the ensuing year, and I have reason to believe that we may safely entrust to them, and to our successors, the completion of a work which has been this day so happily inaugurated. And, Mr. Chairman, permit me to express my sincere regret that you, to whom the City is so much indebted for the consummation of this great public improvement, are not to have any official supervision over its erection, but—as these stones are placed one upon the other, and as the beautiful design of the architect is developed—as its walls and columns and cornices are finished—let it be your satisfaction, as it will be mine, to feel that our humble efforts were instrumental in adorning our loved city with an edifice so graceful in its architectural proportions, and so perfectly adapted to the present and future wants of the government. And if now our hearts are saddened at the present

gloomy condition of our country, let us still cherish the hope that when these walls shall be crowned with its towering dome, we may see from the flag-staff upon its summit the glorious flag of our nation waving over it as the emblem of a restored and reunited country.

The band then played the "Star Spangled Banner," and the ceremonies were concluded with a benediction by the Rev. Mr. Greenwood.



A P P E N D I X .





## APPENDIX.

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*Description of the Box, Plate, and other articles deposited under  
the Corner-Stone of the New City Hall.*

The box is made of sheet-copper, tinned inside and outside, and is thirteen inches square by four inches in height. In this box the annexed list of articles are enclosed :—

1. A silver plate measuring ten and three fourths inches by seven and three fourths inches, upon which the following is engraved :—

THIS CORNER-STONE OF A BUILDING,

*For the use of the various Departments of the*

**Government of the City of Boston,**

Was laid on the 22d day of December, 1862.

BY HIS HONOR,

**JOSEPH M. WIGHTMAN, Mayor,**

Assisted by the

**MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE MASONS OF MASSACHUSETTS.**

**M. W. WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE, G. MASTER.**

---

**City Government for 1862.**

*Mayor.*

**JOSEPH MILNER WIGHTMAN.**

*Aldermen.*

THOMAS P. RICH,  
THOMAS C. AMORY, JR.,  
JAMES L. HANSON,  
SAMUEL R. SPINNEY,  
GEORGE W. PARMENTER,  
JOHN F. PRAY,

ELISHA T. WILSON,  
FRANCIS RICHARDS,  
JOSEPH L. HENSHAW,  
JOSEPH F. PAUL,  
CALVIN A. RICHARDS,  
OTIS NORCROSS.

*Common Council.*JOSHUA D. BALL, *President.*

JOHN W. LEIGHTON,  
 CORNELIUS MURPHY,  
 DENNIS BONNER,  
 MATTHEW KEANY,  
 ALBERT BOWKER,  
 RICHARD BEECHING,  
 GEORGE HINMAN,  
 AUGUSTUS REED,  
 JOHN C. TUCKER,  
 PHILIP O'DONNELL,  
 BERNARD CULLEN,  
 JOHN GLANCY,  
 SELDON CROCKETT,  
 ELIAS E. DAVISON,  
 BENJAMIN F. EDMANDS,  
 DANIEL H. WHITNEY,  
 JOHN S. PEAR,  
 JOSEPH A. BROWN,  
 LINUS M. CHILD,  
 MICHAEL F. WELLS,  
 DANIEL DAVIES,  
 WILLIAM E. BICKNELL,  
 GEORGE P. CLAPP,  
 GEORGE O. SHATTUCK,

JABEZ FREDERICK,  
 CHARLES J. MCCARTHY,  
 JAMES RILEY,  
 HENRY W. FOLEY,  
 JOSEPH BUCKLEY,  
 JOHN S. TYLER,  
 MORRIS C. FITCH,  
 WINSOR HATCH, 2D,  
 WILLIAM CARPENTER,  
 FRANKLIN H. SPRAGUE,  
 SAMUEL G. BOWDLEAR,  
 WILLIAM H. IRELAND,  
 JOEL RICHARDS,  
 LORING B. BARNES,  
 CYRUS HICKS,  
 HORACE B. FISHER,  
 WILLIAM B. FOWLE, JR.,  
 JOSHUA D. BALL,  
 JOHN C. FALLON,  
 LUCIUS A. CUTLER,  
 SUMNER CROSBY,  
 GEORGE W. SPRAGUE,  
 HENRY A. DRAKE,  
 STANLEY GORE.

*Committee on Public Buildings.*

FRANCIS RICHARDS,  
 SAMUEL R. SPINNEY,  
 JOSEPH F. PAUL,  
 JOHN C. TUCKER,

JOHN C. FALLON,  
 GEORGE W. SPRAGUE,  
 DANIEL DAVIES,  
 JOHN W. LEIGHTON.

GRIDLEY J. F. BRYANT and ARTHUR GILMAN, *Architects.*SAMUEL C. NOTTAGE, *Superintendent of Public Buildings.*SAMUEL F. MCCLEARY, *City Clerk.*D. BRISCOE, *Engraver.*

2. Message of the President of the United States to Congress, December, 1862.
3. Reports of Secretaries of the Treasury, of War, Navy, and Interior, 1862.
4. Massachusetts State Register, 1862.

5. City Charter and City Ordinances.
6. Boston Municipal Register for 1862.
7. Map of the City of Boston, revised to 1861.
8. Inaugural Address of the Mayor, January 6, 1862.
9. Report of the Committee on new City Hall, 1862.
10. Report of Committee on Boston Volunteers, 1862.
11. Annual Report of Boston Board of Trade, 1862.
12. Two Semi-Annual Reports of the Superintendent of Schools, 1862.
13. Annual Report of the Trustees of the Public Library, 1862.
14. Annual Report of the Chief of Police, 1862.
15. Annual Report of the City Auditor, 1862.
16. Oration before the City Authorities, July 4, 1862, by Hon. George T. Curtis.
17. Boston Almanac, 1862.
18. Boston newspapers, December 20, 1862.
19. A sealed glass bottle, containing two United States Treasury Notes of the denominations of one and two dollars; Postal Currency of fifty, twenty-five, ten, and five cents; also a Treasury Note of the "Confederate States of America," of the denomination of twenty dollars, an United States Cent of 1862, and an impression from the City Seal.
20. A photographic outline View of the new City Hall.

The box containing the foregoing articles is hermetically sealed, and then put inside another copper box fifteen inches square and six inches high, which is also closed hermetically after filling the space between the two boxes with dry pulverized charcoal. The cavity in the stone to receive the box is eighteen inches square and eight inches high.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CITY HALL

It is intended, in this building, to provide for the due and convenient as well as economical location of the several apartments necessary for the accommodation of all the various branches of the City Government. And it is believed that the design now adopted is such as will render it a model of well-matured and thoroughly suitable construction for civic purposes.

The new building is to be erected of the fine white granite from the quarries at Concord, N. H. It is of three full stories in height, exclusive of the basement story, (which will be entered, as now, from the rear in Court Square,) and exclusive also of the attic or mansard story, finished in the height of the French roof which crowns the whole. The front, toward School Street, is 138 feet in length, having a central projection  $51\frac{1}{2}$  feet in length, and projecting  $14\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the line of the wings. This centre is somewhat higher than the body of the wings, occupies the whole width of the Mayor and Aldermen's room on the principal floor, and of the Common Council room on the third floor, and is finished above with a handsome dome, square on plan, and surmounted by a balcony and flag-staff. The depth of the building from front to rear is 95 feet in the wings, and  $109\frac{1}{2}$  feet in the centre.

The basement story contains a public office for the City Physician, and a large operating room for vaccination, &c., connected with it; a large waiting room in connection with the office of Directors of Public Institutions, a clerk's office connected with do., a storeroom for Messenger, for documents required to be immediately available, a storeroom for plans and necessary articles for the use of the Superintendent of Public Buildings, cellar for fuel, for heating apparatus, and a suit of water-closets and urinals for the general use of the city officials.

The first, or entrance story, contains, on the left of the entrance, the large and important offices for the Treasurer and Auditor, with a private room for each, and having large and

commodious safes, with lavatory and convenient closets. This portion of the building is strictly fire-proof, both above and below, the floors being laid in brick and cement arches on heavy rolled iron girders. On the right are the Water Registrar's public room and private office, and the Assessors' large office; the Police general room and the private office of the Chief of Police, with a private staircase leading to the Mayor's inner office on the floor above. In the rear, and overlooking Court Square, are the offices for the Overseers of the Poor and the Directors of Public Institutions, while the centre of the whole building is occupied by a noble hall and double flight of staircases, the hall being 32 by 76 feet throughout each story.

The entrance corridor from the School Street front connects this hall with the front vestibule of the building, under the central portico, and is 15 feet in width.

On the second or principal floor the landing at the head of the two flights of stairs opens to the Mayor and Aldermen's large room, which measures 46 by 46 feet, and is  $26\frac{1}{2}$  feet in height. On the left are the Mayor's lobby, with accommodation for clerk, and the Mayor's private office, and on the right the City Clerk's public office, a private office for the use of the same official, and a third office for the recording of mortgages, which comes under his jurisdiction. The City Solicitor is provided with two commodious and handsome rooms in the rear of the City Clerk's quarters. The Superintendent of Public Buildings occupies the similar offices on the other side, and a room for the Messenger, and two large and handsome committee rooms, complete the amount of accommodation on this floor.

On the third story are the Water Commissioners' two rooms, the offices of the Superintendent of Sewers and Superintendent of Lands, each with a private room for the sessions of the respective committees; the office of the City Registrar, of the Superintendent of Schools, of the School Committee, of the Superintendent of Streets, of the Superintendent of Internal Health, and the Engineers of the Fire Department; for each of

which branches of the city service ample and convenient quarters are now for the first time provided.

The fourth story contains the Common Council room, directly over the room of the Mayor and Aldermen, and of the same dimensions on plan, but considerably higher in section, as its position under the dome enables it to be made. Connected with it on the one side are the two offices for the Clerk of the Common Council, with large safe and other suitable accommodations, and on the other the dressing-room for hats and outer garments of the Councilmen, and a range of water-closets, lavatories, and other desirable conveniences. Six committee rooms of various sizes and accommodations complete the arrangement of the floor.

In the attic or mansard story, made by the rise of the French roof, are located a suit of fourteen rooms, of various sizes, several of the largest of which are to be fitted with shelves, as storerooms for the printed documents of the city from year to year.

The story under the dome, and most of the area of the dome itself, are to be used for the Fire and Police Telegraph, and for sleeping-rooms for the operators.

The construction of the brick walls surrounding the large staircase hall in the centre of the building, affords an opportunity for the most thorough and perfect ventilation of every apartment. Through a series of hollow brick flues connected with each apartment by registers, and at the top with the main hot-air shaft from the heating apparatus, a complete circulation of air throughout the structure can at all times be easily maintained. The advantage of this arrangement will be particularly felt in the Council Chamber, an apartment which is liable at times, — such as the yearly organization of the City Government, the conventions of the two branches, and the debates upon matters of more than ordinary interest — to overcrowding of its area, and the consequent ill effects of a heated and vitiated atmosphere. Against such a state of things the system of ventilation proposed would, it is believed, afford complete security.

It is desirable to observe in this connection that the Council Chamber is provided with deep and ample galleries, in a space not readily available for other purposes, and which will afford a complete accommodation for a large attendance of the public without encroaching upon the floor of the Chamber.

The external style and appearance of the new City Hall will, we feel assured, be a source of gratification and of just pride to our community. The style selected is one which grows naturally out of the character and requirements of the structure. It will at once be recognized by all those conversant with such matters, as the prevailing style of modern Europe, — a style which the taste of the present Emperor of France, in particular, has so largely illustrated in most of the modern works of the French capital. Derived originally from Italian sources, and particularly from the later edifices of the Venetian Republic, it has now been so successfully naturalized in other countries as to have become the prevailing manner for most of these edifices of a dignified and permanent character, other than churches, which are destined to be regarded as the best architectural records of our time by posterity. The Committee on Public Buildings have desired, in this respect, not to fall behind the progress of art in other communities, but to bring forward a design which, with a due regard to economy and convenience of construction, shall yet stand as a fair memorial of our own advancement in the knowledge and the taste of the age. We believe that it will commend itself alike to the approbation of architectural amateurs and of our citizens generally, as graceful and harmonious in proportion and detail — and particularly as being light and cheerful in its prevailing character, and rich in its general appearance, without any very elaborate or costly decoration of its parts. Expressive in its outline and arrangement of the purposes for which it is proposed to be erected, it will be found to impress the spectator with a sense of fitness and propriety for the principal municipal structure of an enterprising and thrifty community. And we are confident that the

public in general will have good reason to be fully satisfied with it as a permanent ornament to the central and imposing locality on which it is to be placed.

The contract for all the cut granite work has been signed with Messrs. Sheldon, Sargent, Hollis, and Penniman. The brick-work and masonry are contracted for by Messrs. Adams and Jacobs, and the carpenters' work by Jonas Fitch, leaving the iron-work, with painting and glazing, and some smaller and unimportant matters of finish, not yet under contract.

The designs, plans, working drawings, and specifications, for this most important work, have been made throughout by Messrs. G. J. F. Bryant and A. Gilman, and the building, when completed, will add another striking specimen to the numerous memorials of skill and taste with which these gentlemen have already adorned the streets of our ancient city.

*Copies of original Papers in the possession of the Massachusetts Historical Society, relating to the erection of Town Houses in Boston in 1657 and 1711.*

*Power Conferred by the Committee for the Town house — 1657.*

Wee whose names are vnder wrighten having full power given vs by the Town of Boston to Agree with workmen, & in their behalfe to Engadge the Town, In the Payment of any sum or sums for the building Ereecting & Compleating of A house for the Town both for the forme & dimentions &c. according as we shall Judge meet, They the s<sup>d</sup> Towne having Engadged themselves to own & stand by vs and performe what promises Covenants or Engadgm<sup>ts</sup> wee should make in order to the accomplishing of the premises, And to facillitate the s<sup>d</sup> worke we the s<sup>d</sup> subscribed doe make choyce of M Edward Hutchinson & John Hull in o behalfe to Agree & Compound with workmen & Engadge paym<sup>t</sup> in everie respect for the s<sup>d</sup> worke & we doe hereby oblidge o<sup>r</sup> selves to stand by, own, & performe what the s<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Ed: Hutchinson & Jn Hull soe deputed shall



doe or Engadge themselves in as iff it was the personall act of everie one off vs & heervnto we subscribe o<sup>r</sup> hands, by this binding o<sup>r</sup> selves likewise to own what the s<sup>d</sup> prtyes have all-ridy done in the s<sup>d</sup> worke signed this 31 of the 6<sup>th</sup> month 1657.

<i>Townesmen</i> <i>Comisioners</i>	}	THO : MARSHALL
		SAMUELL COLE
		WILLIAM PADDY
		JOSH : SCOTTOW
		JER : HOWCHYN.

*Agreem<sup>t</sup> for the Town House — 1657.*

BOSTON August 1. 1657.

Wee whose Names are vnder wrighten Being chosen by & in behalfe of the Town of Boston, to bargain & Contract with some able workemen about A house for the Town, we have Bargained & Contracted, & by these presents doe bargain & Covenant with Thomas Joy and Bartholomew Bernad of Boston ; & the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas Joy & Barth Bernad, are heerby bound & doe oblidge themselves vnto the s<sup>d</sup> Town of Boston (& in vn[to] In their behalfe) that they will Prepare & Erect, a very substantiall and Comely building In the place Appointed by the s<sup>d</sup> Town ; The dimentions of w<sup>ch</sup> Edifice shall be sixty six foot in Length, and thirty six foot in Breadth from out side to out-side, set vpon twenty one Pillers of full ten foot high between Pedestall & Capitall, & well brased all four waies, placed vpon foundation of stone in the bottome. The wholl Building to Jetty over three foot without the Pillers everie way : The height of the s<sup>d</sup> House to be ten foot betwixt Joynts above the Pillers, and a halfe storie above that, with three gable Endes over it vpon each side : A walke vpon the Top fourteen or 15 foote wide with two Turrets, & turnd Balasters and railles, round about the walke according to A modell or draught Presented to vs, by the s<sup>d</sup> Tho : Joy, & Barth : Bernad. The s<sup>d</sup> Tho : Joy & Barth : Bernad Likewise, finding all things necisarie and meet for the s<sup>d</sup> Building, viz : Timber in in everie

respect & of everie sort, substantiall & meet according to Proportion & Art, Plank for the sides & ends three Inch thick,\* well groved one into another, and into the timbers allso an Inch and halfe; well plained & smoothed one Both sides, two Inch plank for the Lower floor, and full Inch for the vpper floor, Both smoothed, and vpon the walk duple boarded and well groved; the Rooff well boarded & shingled, with gutters sufficiently made.

Bringing all to the Place, Erecting, finishing & Compleating the whole Edifice viz The Frame, foundations, Floores, staires (viz Two pair halfe paced staires & turnd staires vp into the walke) doores, window Cases & Casements, mantle peeces, Inclosures, Pertitions † &c The wholl Edifice to be Erected, by the thirty daye of the fourth month called June next ensuing the date heeroff; and Covered & shingled within six weekes after that. The Town finding all the Iron worke, as nailes hookes hinges &c. glass with glasing & Lead for the Gutters masonrie worke as the chimnies, foundation of the Pillers with stone brick & Lime belonging to the same the affors<sup>d</sup>. Tho: & Barth: all the other worke as affor<sup>d</sup>. The Town finding help at the raysing.

In consideration of the premises we doe heerby oblige ourselves (according to order & in behalfe of the s<sup>d</sup> Town of Boston affors<sup>d</sup>.) To give & Assigne over vnto the s<sup>d</sup> Tho: Joy & Barthol: Bernad, or to either of them or their assignes the three Hund: Pounds w<sup>ch</sup> is that Part of the Legacy of Cap<sup>t</sup> Rob<sup>t</sup> Keyne (deceased) designed & bequeathed vnto the s<sup>d</sup> Town in his Last will for ther vse, and also one hund. Pound more we heerby oblige o<sup>r</sup> selves to Pay or Cause to be paid vnto the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas & Bartholomew or their Assignes In good English goods at prise Currant, and likewise to doe our

\* Only we alow of Two Inch plank for the sids & ends above the Plates & beames.

† There is to be both Roomes from the chimnies closed one both sides and one Cross partition in one of the Roomes; beside the stair Case.

vttimost that one fifty pound of this above mentioned paym<sup>t</sup> (viz out of the thre Hund<sup>d</sup>.) may be made in mony for the more lively caving an end of the affo<sup>r</sup> s<sup>d</sup> worke.

The Time of w<sup>ch</sup> Payment shall be as followeth viz: one Hund. Pound at the Bringing of the Timber to the Place A second Hund: at the raysing A third Hund: at the Inclosure & Covering A fourth at the finishing & Compleating vnto all these premises aboves<sup>d</sup> we doe heerby Joyntly & severaly mutually & Interchangeably bind o<sup>r</sup>selves by o<sup>r</sup> hands & seales this first of August 1657.

We doe also engadge that the three Hund: pound in the Legacy aboves<sup>d</sup> shall be made good vnto the s<sup>d</sup> workmen Thomas & Bartholomew.

*Witnesses heer vnto*

JOSEPH NEWGATE  
JAMES BROWNE  
HENRY POWNING

EDWARD HUTCHINSON [seal.]  
JOHN HULL. [seal.]

*Relating to y<sup>e</sup> Town House Rents. Read March 10<sup>th</sup> 1711-12.*

Whereas the Rents reserved to the Town of Boston for several spare Rooms in, under, and Adjoyning to the late Town House beside all rooms made use of there for Publick Occasions, did according to the Rates they were lett, or might have been Lett at amount to Eighty pounds P<sup>r</sup> annum.

And the Great and Gen<sup>l</sup> Court or Assembly of this Province haveing lately directed, That there be a House built in or neer the place where the Old Town House stood, For Publick meetings on Civill Occasions, For Province County and Town, Viz<sup>t</sup> For the Meeting of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly, The holding of Councils and Courts of Justice and Town Meetings, the Charge thereof to be born the One halfe by the Province, the Other halfe by the Town of Boston and County of Suffolk in Equall proportion, unto which proposal the Inhabitants of Boston have Voted their Concurrence.

And since there is prospect of as great if not greater improvement<sup>s</sup> and advantage by such spare room in the s<sup>d</sup> new building now to be Erected, it may not be unseasonable for the Inhabitants of this Town now to make Sutable provision to secure that priviledge and benefitt to themselves and their successors.

And altho other Arguments might be of weight for their being so benefitted, Yet rather then forego and loose the same, May it not be adviseable for them to agree upon bearing some Additional Charge in y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> building as an Equivalent, That so they may be thereby Effectually Intituled to the benefit and improvement of all such rooms and spaices in under and adjoining to the s<sup>d</sup> New building which shall be conveniently capable of being inclosed and Improved for distinct uses, and otherwise not needfull to be made use of for those afore mentioned Intentions proposed by the Gen<sup>l</sup> Court, and thereby to Lessen the Charge of the Province, Town and County in their respective proportions as aforesaid. The which additionall Charge, together with the Charge of Incloseing and fitting of shops &c. there, may (if the Town sees meet) to very good advantage be defrayd out of that their money w<sup>ch</sup> is the Effects of Lands sold and in Equity ought to be so layd out as to raise and perpetuate an income to the Town.

And in case sutable Application be made to the Gen<sup>l</sup> Court on the behalfe of this Town relating to the premisies, under the consideration of their Excessive growing Charge & Expences, & their so great a loss by the Late Fire, & that the Late Town-House w<sup>ch</sup> was built at the Charge of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of this Town was for neer fifty years past made use of for all Publick Occasions w<sup>th</sup>out any other Charge to the Public then that for some of the Later years they have born part of y<sup>e</sup> Charge of y Repaires.

And that the Town of Boston being the true and proper Owners of all that Land on w<sup>ch</sup> the said New building is now to be erected. It is presumed that they will readily agree unto so just and reasonable a proposal.

Proposed By Joseph Prout Read at y<sup>e</sup> begining of y<sup>e</sup> Town meeting y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>h</sup> of March 1711-12.

*Gen<sup>l</sup> Court directions abt building a Town House—1711.*

1711 Octo. Committee Appointed by the Gen<sup>l</sup> Court viz Eilsha Hutchinson Samuel Sewall Nathan<sup>l</sup> Payn & Thomas Noyes Esq<sup>rs</sup> of the Council, Samuel Appleton, Josiah Chapin, John Clark & James Warren Esq<sup>rs</sup> Maj<sup>r</sup> Thomas Fitch, Cap<sup>t</sup> Simon Davis & Cap<sup>t</sup> Samuel Phipps of the House of Representatives.

The Above Committee Advise that there be a house built in or near the place where the old Town house stood for the uses mentioned in the Memorial as convenient as may be without incomoding the street the Breadth not to Exceed thirty six feet the Length so as to be Convenient for the Ends mentioned in the Addresse. That a Committee be Appointed by this Court to take Care for the Building as speedily & prudently as may be, The Charge thereof to be born the one half by the Province the other halfe by the Town of Boston & County of Suffolk in Equal proportion.

By ord<sup>r</sup> of the Major part of the Committee.

ELISHA HUTCHINSON.

November 10 1711 Read & Accepted And a Committee Raised and Directed to Advise with his Excellency and such skilful Gent<sup>rs</sup> as they may think fit to be Consulted with about the Model of the House.

Copy of the Minutes

Is<sup>A</sup> ADDINGTON Secry.

NOTE. That the House is for Publick Meetings, on Civil Occasions; for the Province, County & Town, viz<sup>t</sup> for the Meeting of the General Assembly The Holding of Councils, and Courts of Justice and Town meeting.



COPIES OF SUBSCRIPTION PAPERS.





COPY OF THE NAMES  
UPON THE  
FAC-SIMILE SUBSCRIPTION PAPER  
FOR THE  
FIRST TOWN HOUSE IN BOSTON IN 1657.

“Whereas, thear is giuen a Considerable sune by Capt : Kayn towards the Building of a towne house w<sup>ch</sup> sune will not ataine the Building w<sup>ch</sup> he mentioneth in his Will, now Considering the vsefulness of such a Structure wee whose names are vnder written, doe ingage our selues our heyres executors for to giue towards the abou sd hous and also a Condit in the Market place, the seuerall sumes vnder written” : —

Jo. Endecott	Thomas Clarke
Ri. Bellingham	Robert Turner
Edward Tyng	Richard Cooke
John Euered	Robert Swift (?)
Peter Olliuer	Samuel Hutchinson
John Barrett	Josh Scottow
James Olliuer	Will <sup>m</sup> Hudson
Will. Paine	Hezekiah Usher
Richard Parker	Wm Dauis
Nathaniel Williams	Thomas Buttolph
Sarah Parker	James Penn
Henry Powning	Jacob Sheafe
John Cogan	Thomas Lake
Theodore Atkinson	Isaack Waker
Tho. Howkings	John Sanderline
John Hull	Robt. Pateshall

Thomas Matson	Jno. Joyliffe
John Williams	Amos Richardson
Thomas Edsell	Edmond Grenleff
Thomas Bligh	Edward Porter
Richard Gridley	Nicholas Phillips
John Button	Thomas Harwood
Benjamin Negus	Thomas Brattle
James Everill	Thomas Baker
Robt Batterly	John Biggs
John Coney	Jo : Marshall
Samuell Mattocke	Henry Alline
Rich'd Stanes	Hugh Drury
Rowland Story	John Collens
Ri. Wayte	Thomas Scotto
Phillip Whorton	Nathanell Thorn ( ? )
Augusten Clement	John Pears
Richard Woodde	William Reade
John Phillips	Will. Tay
Tho. Emons	Jo <sup>n</sup> . Blacklach
Thomas Littell	John Clough
Humphrey Bradshaw	Samll Davice
Joseph Bonde	Samuell Cole
George Brome	Christopher Gibson
William Paddy	Robert Nanney
Henry Kemble	Henry Bridgham
Thomas Makepeace	Thomas Waker
Joshua Hewes	Nathanell Raynolls
Frances Smith	John Hawkines
Francis Douse	Arthur Masson
John Pierce	Ann Carter
Simon Eire	James Davis by Tho : Joy.
Comfort Starr	Daniel Turill
Henry Phillips	Thomas Fich
Henry Shrimpton	Edmund Jacklin
John Lowel	William Gibson
George Munioy	Jeremy Castine

Bartholmew Cheever	Henery Messenger
Edmund Jackson by Thomas	Will. Colbron
Fay	Edward Goodwin
Miells Towne	James Johnson
William English	John Newgat
Joseph Howe	Thomas Bumsted
Samuel Norden	Natha : Duncan
Robert Nash	Peter Duncan
Mathew Barnes	John Wiswall
Thomas Dewer	Joseph Wise
William Corser	

*Another Subscription Paper for the same purpose is in possession of the Massachusetts Historical Society, of which the following is a copy :*

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE BUILDING OF Y<sup>R</sup> TOWNE HOUSE.

Whereas thear is giuen a Considerable sune by Capt : Keyn towards the Building of a towne house w<sup>ch</sup> sune will not attaine the Building w<sup>ch</sup> he mentioneth in his Will, now Considering the vsefulnes of such a Structure wee whose names are vnder written doe ingage our selues our heires executors for to giue towards the Building of such a house and also a Conditt in the Market place the seuerall sumes vnder written :

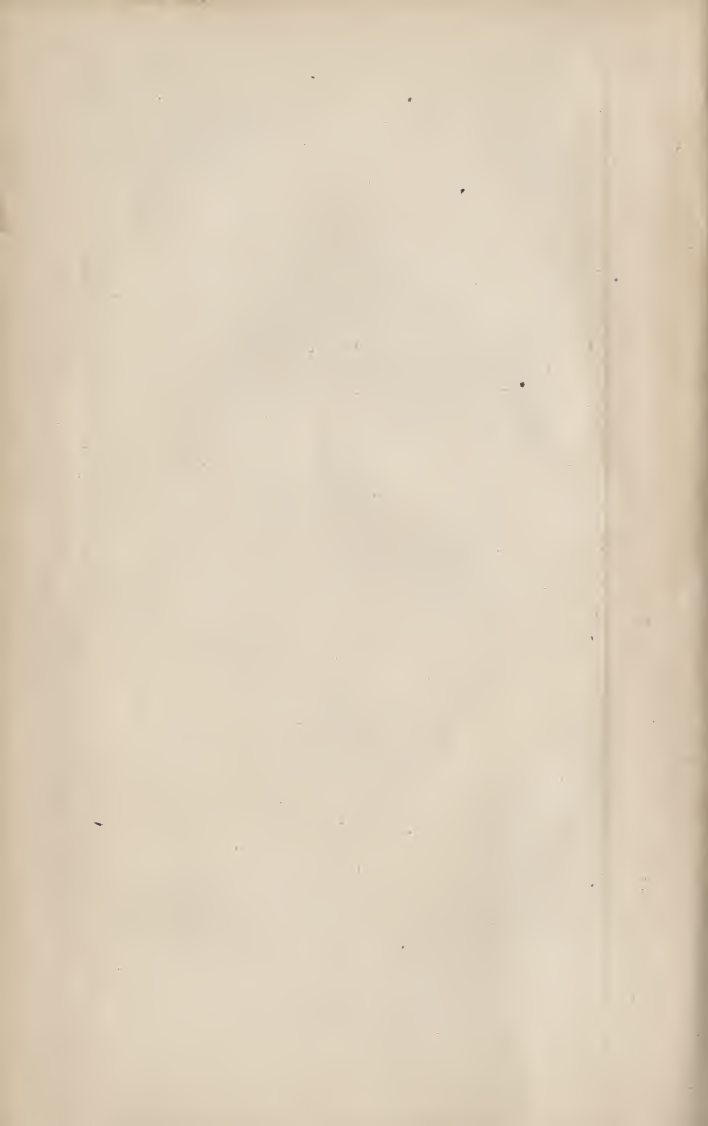
paid	Robert Raynals . . . . .	1— 0 . 0
paid	John Lake . . . . .	01—10 . 00
paid	Robert Sanderson . . . . .	01—00 . 00
paid	Raphfe Mason . . . . .	01—00— 0
paid	Richard Carter by goodman Baker . .	01—00— 0
paid	Mr John Anderson . . . . .	02—00— 0
paid	Nathaniell : Greene . . . . .	01—10 . 0
paid	Joseph Rocke six pounds . . . . .	06—00— 0
paid	Gammaliel Waite . . . . .	01—00—00

	M <sup>r</sup> Ransford . . . . .	01—00—00
paid	John Shaw fisherman . . . . .	00—10—00
paid	Mical Willis cutler . . . . .	01—00—00
	Thomas Leader . . . . .	00—10—00
paid	William Whitwel . . . . .	01—10—00
paid	Joseph Moore . . . . .	01—00—00
paid	Bartholomew Barloe . . . . .	01—00—00
paid	Hene Williams . . . . .	02—00—00
	Marke Hams . . . . .	01—00—00
paid	John Sweete . . . . .	02—00—00
paid	John farnam in worke or other pay . . . . .	01—00—00
paid	Tho : Clarke in Bondes at springe . . . . .	10—00—00
paid	Evan Thomas will pay in literedg . . . . .	01—10—00
paid	John Baker . . . . .	01—10— 0
paid	John Lewes . . . . .	1— 0— 0
	Deacon Trusdell . . . . .	
paid	M <sup>r</sup> David Eavens p <sup>r</sup> Cap <sup>t</sup> Oliuer . . . . .	2 . 00—00
paid	William Browne . . . . .	2 . 10 . 00
paid	William Beamslleay . . . . .	01—00—00
paid	Zakary Phillips . . . . .	01—00—00
paid	Willm Wenborne . . . . .	01—00—00
paid	William Cotton . . . . .	01—10—00
paid	Alexander Becks . . . . .	00—05—00
paid	John Richards three pounds . . . . .	03—00—00
paid	Edward Lane p <sup>r</sup> mise to pay by the hands of Lei <sup>t</sup> Rich. Cooke five pounds and tenn shillings I say . . . . .	5 . 10 <sup>s</sup>
paid	M <sup>r</sup> Bishop . . . . .	2 . 00— 0
	M <sup>rs</sup> Richards Re 10 <sup>s</sup> . . . . .	1—10— 0
paid	Alex : Adames promis . . . . .	01—10—00
	M <sup>r</sup> Edward Belcher p <sup>r</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Hill . . . . .	10—00—00
paid	Deacon Trusdell . . . . .	01—00—00
pd	William Brenton in [ . . . . . ]	10—00—00
paid	Jo Checkley . . . . .	02—10— 0
	Simon Lynde Five pownds . . . . .	£5 ,, ,,

paid	Henry Blake . . . . .	02—10— 0
paid	M <sup>r</sup> Henry Webb . . . . .	20— 0— 0
paid	Capte Pendleton . . . . .	05— 0— 0
pd	Richard Taylor . . . . .	00—15— 0
	John Parker Shewmaker . . . . .	01—00— 0
paid	Abraham Busby . . . . .	02—10— 0
	M <sup>r</sup> Webb Shewmaker . . . . .	00—10— 0
paid	M <sup>r</sup> Houchin . . . . .	05—00—00
paid	M <sup>r</sup> Alford . . . . .	01—10—00









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